

# MANIFESTOS FOR THE GYPSY, ROMANI AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITY

“UNDER THE NIGHT  
SKIES, WE ARE ALL  
EQUAL”

## THIS MANIFESTO WAS CREATED DURING 'GHOST GYPSY'

The Arts Development Company was awarded funding to mark 100 years since Parliament passed a law which allowed the first women, and all men, to vote for the first time.

Supported by The Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme, the Arts Development Company brought together Dorset Race Equality Council and Development Education in Dorset (DEED) to work with young women aged 16-30 from local secondary schools and Gypsy, Romani and Traveller Communities. Through a series of creative workshops, young women came together to creatively explore the challenges and barriers surrounding voting and taking part in local decision-making processes.

Other outcomes of this project includes a film, a series of manifestos, and free, online learning resources created by DEED.

## AS A MEMBER OF THE GYPSY, ROMANI AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITY I PLEDGE TO:

- Register on the electoral register
- Use my right to vote to express my voice in local and general elections
- Be proud of my culture, my origins and share it openly with people who want to know
- Positively challenge people who make unpleasant comments by explaining who I am and where I come from
- Ask for help when needed
- Engage in the promotion of my culture throughout the community to raise awareness of who we are and what we do
- Engage with local organisations that can support me and help me promote my culture
- Treat people with respect

## AS A MEMBER OF A LOCAL ORGANISATION WORKING IN DORSET, I PLEDGE TO:

- Be respectful, compassionate, tolerant and understanding towards all communities.
- Acknowledge and recognise the culture of the Gypsy, Romani and Traveller community and work with other agencies to ensure an accepted and concerted approach is adopted to support the Gypsy, Romani and Traveller community
- Have a zero-tolerance policy for all kinds of discrimination
- Help to demystify the planning permission process for the Gypsy, Romani and Traveller community.
- Enable the Gypsy, Romani and Traveller community to actively contribute to the planning process and constructively challenge planning decisions made
- Provide more tolerated stopping places for members of the Gypsy, Romani and Traveller community to be able to stop and rest without being scared
- Provide Gypsy, Romani and Traveller cultural awareness sessions for teachers, students, and statutory organisations
- Encourage Schools to provide opportunities for learning about their local, diverse community, including Gypsy, Romani and Traveller culture, for their students, teachers and families. This can take place as lessons in school, training for staff, special days and assemblies, or community events
- Make reasonable adjustments to enable young people from the Gypsy, Romani and Traveller community to learn at their own pace in schools
- Provide more mental health services and raise awareness about mental health difficulties originating from having a dual culture



# MANIFESTOS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 18- 30

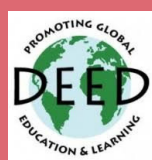
“AND STILL I RISE”

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## AS A YOUNG PERSON ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND AGED BETWEEN 18-30, I PLEDGE TO:

- Register on the electoral register
- Use my right to vote to express my voice in local and general elections
- Believe in my power as a young person to represent a wider call for change.
- Have my voice heard to impact decisions that affect my life and other people's lives
- Champion and become an advocate for voting
- Encourage people to become active citizens and change makers
- Stay interested and hungry to learn more
- Be empowered to constructively disrupt the status quo
- Engage with local organisations that can support the cause, help to answer questions and signpost to further information
- Treat people with respect, even if their views are different

## AS A MEMBER OF A LOCAL ORGANISATION WORKING IN DORSET, I PLEDGE TO:

- Respect and value young people's voice and viewpoints
- Ensure young women and girls, whatever their background, can speak out and be listened to, and to feel like they can make decisions and bring about change
- Ensure that young people are exposed to a range of views

## WHAT WE CAN DO TO ACHIEVE THIS:

- Create an independent toolbox for educators to support the teaching of politics
- Set up mock elections for young people to take part in
- Create, an online resource at local election time for young people to find out about candidates standing in their area and a way to submit questions to them,
- Host or encourage hustings young people can attend
- Create, or help to create, a resource to facilitate a 'question time' style event with politicians and young people